FEB 2 5 MIN STREET

Maye

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.

: 09/942,120

Confirmation No. 3677

Applicant

: MINORU HASHIDA, et al.

Filed

: August 30, 2001

TC/A.U.

: 3677

Examiner

: D. MELWANI

Docket No.

: 056203.50347US

Customer No.

: 23911

Title

: SEAL MECHANISM AND FUEL PUMP PROVIDED

THEREWITH

LETTER

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In light of the recent telephone exchange between the undersigned and Examiner Melwani, it is understood that a new Office Action will be issued to consider the Reply filed on December 23, 2003, along with a Request for Continued Examination. It appears that the latter document was not before the Examiner when issuing the Advisory Action mailed January 27, 2004.

Respectfully submitted,

February 25, 2004

James F. McKeown

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JFM/lvb